



2142

Serial No. 09/737,933

Atty. Docket No. 19280-1450.001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Peter Garsoe

Serial No. 09/737,933

Filed: December 15, 2000

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:Group Art Unit: 2142

:Examiner: Hieu C. Le

:Response to Paper No. 2

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 121

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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S I R:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 19, 2004.

Claims 1-17 remain pending in the present application.

Restriction has been required between (I) claims 1-11 and 16, drawn to a distributed interactive content system, (II) claims 12-15, drawn to a process to facilitate review of a directory, and (III) claim 17, drawn to a via link system. This restriction requirement is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that restriction is proper because the inventions are distinct and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter. However, applicant respectfully

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traverses this restriction requirement on the basis that the requisite serious burden on the Examiner set forth in MPEP § 803 does not appear to exist. Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, despite the allegedly divergent subject matter. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement is respectfully requested.

Applicant provisionally elects invention I, claims 1-11 and 16 for further prosecution. The remaining claims will be retained pending resolution of the traversal.

An action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

5/6/04

Date

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